

Response to Office Action mailed July 9, 2007
U.S. Application No. 10/554,631

REMARKS

All pending claims 1-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,007,275 to Borseth (the Borseth reference). Additionally, claim 23 was rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants' representative discussed these matters in a telephonic interview conducted on October 16, 2007, which is summarized below.

Interview Summary

Applicants' representative called the Examiner on October 16, 2007 to discuss this case and sincerely appreciates her taking the time to discuss the case over the phone. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that an amendment to claim 23 might be appropriate and Applicants' representative suggested the claim language as amended above. The Examiner responded positively to such amendment. In discussing the prior art rejection, the Examiner indicated concurrence with the Applicants' representative that steps (b) and (c) of claim 1 of the application are not disclosed by Borseth.

The Indefiniteness Rejection

The Examiner rejected claim 23 as indefinite. Applicants believe that the amendment to claim 23 addresses any perceived or actual indefiniteness, therefore placing the claim in condition for allowance.

The Anticipation Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 1-23 as anticipated by Borseth. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. As discussed with the Examiner in the telephonic

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interview of October 16, 2007 summarized above, Borseth fails to disclose every limitation of claim 1. Since claims 2-23 incorporate the limitations of claim 1, they are also believed to be allowable over Borseth. The application is believed to be allowable for at least these reasons and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

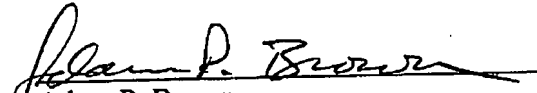
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CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments and remarks set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all pending claims. An extension of time fee is submitted concurrently herewith on a separate sheet. While no other fees are believed to be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account No. 05-1328 for any other fees associated with extensions of time for this application. Further, Applicants thank the Examiner for conducting a telephonic interview and invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below to further discuss the application if so desired.

Respectfully submitted,

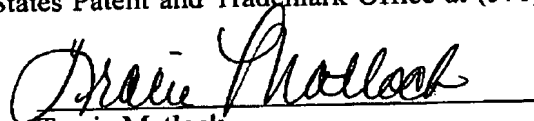
Date: October 25, 2007


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to Examiner Mayo, Art Unit 3671, United States Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300 on October 25, 2007.


Tracie Matlock